## **ELLIS: LAWHORNE**

John J. Pringle, Jr.

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March 12, 2004

## VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL SERVICE

The Honorable Bruce Duke
Executive Director
South Carolina Public Service Commission
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: John J. Pringle, Jr.
Direct dial: 803/343-1270

<u>ipringle@ellislawhorne.com</u>

Dear Mr. Duke:

On behalf of NewSouth Communications Corporation, ("NewSouth") I write to support the arguments of the Small CLEC Group set out in its Motion to Dismiss Petition for Arbitration, as well as the position taken by ITC^DeltaCom Telecommunications, Inc. in its letter to you.

In particular, the North Carolina Utilities Commission "Order Continuing Proceeding Indefinitely" cited by both the Small CLEC Group and ITC^DeltaCom provides compelling justification for continuing the above Docket indefinitely.

I ask that you please stamp as filed the enclosed copy of this letter and return it to me via the enclosed envelope. Should you have any questions, please contact me.

With kind regards, I am

Yours truly,

John J. Pringle, Jr.

JJP/cr

cc: Mr. Jake E. Jennings [via electronic mail only]

Steve Hamm, Esquire

THURSDAY SOUTH COMMUNICATIONS LLC/Testimony in 2003-327-C/Duke Testimony.wpd